AMENDMENTS

In the Specification.

Please amend the specification as follows and as shown in the attached replacement pages.

1. Please amend the specification at page 1 line 1 as follows:

TITLE: ~~MEDIA MOISTURE CONTROL~~ PAPER TRAY MOISTURE CONTROL

2. Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The process of electrostatic imaging, whether in an electrophotographic copier, a laser printer, or other similar imaging device, typically involves the light-directed distribution of electrostatic charge over the surface of a photoconductive roller. A developing device deposits toner particles on the photoconductive roller and the toner particles are in turn deposited as an image onto a sheet media. After the image is transferred to the sheet media, the media typically passes between a fuser roller and a pressure roller where the media and toner are heated and pressed bonding the image onto the media. All media contain moisture. When the media passes between the rollers, ~~a~~ at least a portion of the moisture is heated and evaporates. The resulting vapor may be transported to the various systems of the imaging device having a potentially detrimental effect upon those systems.

3. Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Referring to Fig. 3, an alternate embodiment of a moisture-reducing paper tray 60 is shown. Paper tray 60 includes side wall 61, end wall 62, front face 63 and base panel 64. Spring 65 is disposed between media support panel 66 and base panel 64 and is hingedley attached to base panel 64 by hinge 68. Spring 65 provides an upward bias of media support panel 66 towards pickup roller 31. In the illustrated embodiment of the invention, a desiccant floor panel 67 is formed of a molded material including a desiccant. Desiccant floor panel 67 is positioned against base panel 64 in the bottom of paper tray 60. Humidity level in media storage bay 69 of paper tray 60 is conditioned by desiccant floor panel 67.

4. Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 26 and continuing over to page 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As seen in Fig. 5, paper tray 70 is inserted against warm air duct 42 and paper tray 70 is pneumatically connected to drying mechanism 25 at inlet 26. Drying mechanism 25 as shown includes heating element 27, blower 28, blower motor 29, and humidity sensor 23, all connected to controller 11. Humidity sensor 23 is connected to controller 11 through contact 24 and is positioned to sense a humidity level in recess 79. When a pre-selected humidity level in recess 79 is equaled or exceeded, heating element 27 and blower motor 29 of blower 28 are energized and warm air H is pressurized passing through paper tray 70 heating and drying desiccant packets 15.

5. Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As seen in Fig. 6 paper tray 80 includes plenum 43 formed below recess 89, extending below radiant surface 92 which forms a partition between recess 89 and plenum 43. Desiccant packets 15 are placed in recess 89 on an upper surface of radiant surface 92. Plenum 43 is pneumatically connected to warm air duct 42 at inlet 26, connecting drying mechanism 25 to paper tray 80. As previously described in reference to Fig. 5, and as shown in Fig. 6, drying mechanism 25 includes heating element 27, blower 28, blower motor 29 and humidity sensor 23, all connected to controller 11. Humidity sensor 23 is connected to controller 11 through contact 24 and is positioned to sense a humidity level in recess 89. When a pre-selected condition is met, for instance switching heating element 27, blower 28 and blower motor 29 to an energized state, warm air H is pressurized passing through inlet 26 to plenum 43 heating radiant surface 92. Radiant heat RH radiates from radiant surface 92 heating and drying desiccant packets 15. Warm air H is discharged from plenum 43 through vent 93.